



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 446

January Session, 2017

Substitute House Bill No. 5116

House of Representatives, April 6, 2017

The Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement reported through REP. HADDAD of the 54th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING A HIGHER EDUCATION DATA COLLECTION AND TRACKING SYSTEM.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2017*) (a) The constituent units of
2 the state system of higher education, as defined in section 10a-1 of the
3 general statutes, and the Labor Department, shall collect data as
4 described in subsections (b) and (d) of this section. Such data shall be
5 made accessible to the public on or before October 1, 2018, by means of
6 an Internet web site, to assist students with making informed decisions
7 concerning higher education and career choices. For the purposes of
8 this section, "degree" means associate degree, bachelor's degree,
9 master's degree and doctorate degree.

10 (b) Not later than January 1, 2018, the constituent units shall provide
11 data to the Labor Department, for the previous ten academic years,
12 relating to sub-baccalaureate certificate and degree completion,
13 including, but not limited to, (1) the number of students that have

14 completed a sub-baccalaureate certificate or degree program currently
 15 offered at an institution within the constituent units, (2) the subject
 16 matter of the sub-baccalaureate certificate or degree program
 17 completed by such students, (3) the degrees earned by such students,
 18 (4) the institutions at which such students received sub-baccalaureate
 19 certificates or degrees, and (5) the year of completion of such sub-
 20 baccalaureate certificate or degree program.

21 (c) Not later than January 1, 2019, and annually thereafter, the
 22 constituent units shall collect data, as described in subsection (b) of this
 23 section, for the previous academic year, and provide such data to the
 24 Labor Department.

25 (d) Not later than July 1, 2018, and annually thereafter, the Labor
 26 Department shall collect data relating to the salaries of students who
 27 have completed a sub-baccalaureate certificate or degree program at an
 28 institution within the constituent units, including, but not limited to,
 29 the salaries of such students one year after completion, five years after
 30 completion and ten years after completion. The Labor Department
 31 shall pair such salary data with the corresponding sub-baccalaureate
 32 certificate and degree program completion data.

33 (e) Not later than October 1, 2018, and annually thereafter, the Labor
 34 Department shall make such paired data accessible on an Internet web
 35 site in aggregate form.

36 (f) The constituent units and the Labor Department may utilize
 37 existing data collection networks to implement the provisions of this
 38 section.

39 (g) Each public institution of higher education shall post a link to
 40 access such data on the institution's Internet web site.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2017	New section

HED *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note***State Impact:*** None***Municipal Impact:*** None***Explanation***

The bill results in no fiscal impact to the Labor Department or the higher education constituent units. To the extent that the labor department already gathers data regarding salary in relation to degrees and certificates, the department can amend data collection practices to include inquiry regarding whether Associate's degrees and certificates were obtained at the relevant higher education constituent units or not at no additional cost. The constituent units have sufficient expertise to provide specified student data to the labor department.

The Out Years***State Impact:*** None***Municipal Impact:*** None

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 5116*****AN ACT CONCERNING A HIGHER EDUCATION DATA COLLECTION AND TRACKING SYSTEM.*****SUMMARY**

This bill requires a public website to be created by October 1, 2018 to help students make informed higher education and career decisions. The website must be comprised of data collected by the state's constituent units for higher education (i.e., UConn and the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities) and the Department of Labor (DOL). (It is unclear however, which entity must create the website; see COMMENT.)

Under the bill, the constituent units must collect data about certificate and degree programs completed by students over the past 10 academic years and share this information with DOL. DOL must collect data about salaries earned by students who have completed certificate and degree programs at constituent unit institutions and post it in aggregate form online by October 1, 2018. (Presumably, DOL must (1) pair this salary data with the corresponding program data collected by constituent units and (2) post this paired data on the same website for higher education and careers created under the bill; see COMMENT.)

The bill allows the constituent units and DOL to use existing data collection networks to fulfill their respective data collection duties for the website. It also requires all in-state public higher education institutions to post a link to the data on their respective institutions' websites. (The bill does not specify the type of data to which the websites must link; presumably, it is the data on the new higher education and career website created under the bill.)

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2017

DATA COLLECTION DUTIES

Constituent Units

The bill requires the constituent units to provide to DOL, by January 1, 2018, the following data from the previous 10 academic years (2007-08 to 2016-17):

1. the number of students who have completed a sub-baccalaureate certificate or degree program currently offered at their institutions;
2. these programs' subject matter;
3. the associate, bachelor's, master's, and doctorate degrees earned by these students;
4. the institutions where these students received their certificates or degrees; and
5. the year these students completed the certificate and degree programs.

Beginning January 1, 2019, the bill requires the constituent units to annually collect the above data for the previous academic year (2017-18) and provide it to DOL.

DOL

Under the bill, by July 1, 2018, and annually thereafter, DOL must collect salary data for students who have completed a sub-baccalaureate certificate or degree program at each constituent unit institution one year, five years, and 10 years after completing the program. (It does not specify which year of program completion the department must use for the initial year of salary data collection.) It requires DOL to pair the above salary data with the corresponding sub-baccalaureate certificate and degree program completion data (see COMMENT). Presumably, this is the same data DOL receives from the constituent units.

COMMENTS***Website Creation***

The bill requires a website to be created using constituent unit- and DOL-provided data; however, it does not specify which entity is responsible for creating the website.

DOL Data Matching

The bill requires the constituent units to convey aggregate data to DOL, not data on each individual student. Consequently, DOL will not be able to match the salary data it collects on their graduates with their individual certificate and degree programs.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 19 Nay 2 (03/21/2017)